

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The applicant's attorneys appreciate the Examiner's thorough search and remarks.

Responsive to the objections set forth against the drawings, appropriate corrections have been made. Furthermore, claim 13 has been amended so that it may properly correspond to the subject matter of the figures. Withdrawal of the objection is requested.

Responsive to the rejection of claims 1, 10 and 15 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, appropriate corrections have been made. Withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1, 10 and 15 is requested.

Claim 1 has been amended to include the limitations of claim 3 and its base claim, claim 2. In the Office Action, claim 3 was rejected as obvious over Yang in view of Hsieh, U.S. Patent No. 6,262,453 because channel region was considered "only the portion of region 35 that is adjacent the trench and directly below region 36." It is believed that the Office Action has considered only the invertible portion of channel region 12 which is immediately adjacent the trenches. To clarify that channel region as called for by claim 1 includes region 12, and not just its invertible portion, claim 1 has been amended to call for a plurality of trenches that extend through a common channel region. Thus, there should be no confusion as to the meaning of the channel region. That is, there is no way the claim can be read to have channel region correspond to only the invertible portion of channel region 12 in that under such interpretation it would not be possible to pass a plurality of trenches through the channel region. It is submitted, therefore, that claim 1 as amended should be allowed in that there is no reference in the record that shows or suggests field relief regions that are spaced from a channel region. Reconsideration is requested.

Claim 10 has been amended to call for the conductivity of the field relief regions and the first conductivity regions below the trenches to be selected "to create a superjunction structure in said device." Such a feature improves the breakdown voltage of the device and thus allows a designer to shorten the channel and thus improve the R_{dson} . A basis for the newly added limitation to claim 10 can be found at least on page 3, paragraph 16. None of the cited references teaches or suggests the limitations set forth in claim 10. Reconsideration is requested.

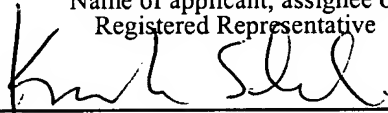
Each of the remaining claims depends from one of claims 1 and 10, and thus includes its limitations. In addition, each of the remaining claims includes other limitations, which in combination with those of its base claim are not shown or suggested by the art of record. Reconsideration is requested.

The application is believed to be in condition for allowance. Such action is earnestly solicited.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on October 7, 2004:

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Name of applicant, assignee or
Registered Representative

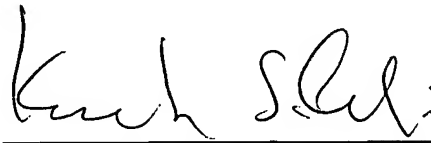


Signature

October 7, 2004

Date of Signature

Respectfully submitted,



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AMENDMENT TO THE DRAWING(S)

Figs. 1 and 2 have been amended. The attached sheets of formal drawings replace the original sheets including Figs.1-9A.